



News Release

Klamath Marsh National Wildlife Refuge
HC 63 Box 303
Chiloquin, OR 82935

June 19, 2007

For Immediate Release

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Comments Sought on Proposed Haying

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is accepting public comment on a proposal (Compatibility Determination) to allow regulated haying on lands owned and managed by Klamath Marsh National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) in Klamath County, Oregon. Haying is used by the Refuge to manage habitat for the benefit of wildlife species. Haying would be permitted on no more than 500 acres between 10 August- 30 September and would be administered under a Special Use Permit issued by the Refuge.

By law, only uses that are compatible with (do not materially interfere with or adversely affect) the purposes for which the Refuge was established can be permitted. The primary purposes of the Refuge are "1) for use as an inviolate sanctuary, or for any other management purpose, for migratory birds; 2) for the development, management, conservation, and protection of fish and wildlife resources; and 3) the conservation of the wetlands of the Nation in order to maintain the public benefits they provide and to help fulfill international obligations contained in various migratory bird treaties and conventions." Following the comment period June 22- July 21, 2007, the FWS will make a determination on whether or not the proposed activity is compatible.

To obtain a copy of the Compatibility Determination for review, you may visit the following website (<http://www.fws.gov/klamathbasinrefuges/index.html>), email carol_damberg@fws.gov, or call Carol Damberg at (541) 783-3380. Please send written comments to Klamath Marsh National Wildlife Refuge; HC 63 Box 303, Chiloquin, OR 97624 prior to July 21, 2007.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 95-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System which encompasses nearly 540 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 70 national fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resource offices and 78 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces Federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Aid program that distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

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For more information about the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
visit our home page at <http://www.fws.gov>